

State of Alaska
Department of Fish and Game
Nomination for Waters
Important to Anadromous Fish

AWC Volume SE SC SW W AR IN USGS Quad Seward D-6

Anadromous Water Catalog Number of Waterway 247-60-10230

Name of Waterway Twentymile River USGS name X Local name _____

Addition X Deletion _____ Correction _____ Backup Information _____

For Office Use

Nomination # <u>96-055</u>	<u>Jones</u>	<u>2/16/96</u>
Revision Year: <u>96</u>	Regional Supervisor	Date
Revision to: Atlas _____ Catalog _____	<u>Dean W. Hughes</u>	<u>2/13/96</u>
Both <u>X</u>	<u>2 Jones</u>	<u>3/27/96</u>
Revision Code: <u>A-1</u>	Drafted	Date

OBSERVATION INFORMATION

Species	Date(s) Observed	Spawning	Rearing	Migration	Anadromous
CHUM SALMON	10/93	~12			X
SOCKEYE SALMON	10/93	~50			X
COHO SALMON	10/93	~200			X
COHO SALMON	10/21/94	~100			X

IMPORTANT: Provide all supporting documentation that this water body is important for the spawning, rearing or migration of anadromous fish, including: number of fish and life stages observed; sampling methods, sampling duration and area sampled; copies of field notes; etc. Attach a copy of a map showing location of mouth and observed upper extent of each species, as well as any other information such as: specific stream reaches observed as spawning or rearing habitat; locations, types, and heights of any barriers; etc.

Comments: IN 1993, SOCKEYE AND CHUM SALMON WERE OBSERVED SPAWNING BELOW UNNAMED
S.W. TRAIL TO TWENTYMILE RIVER. FINE TO MEDIUM GRAVEL IS PRESENT IN THIS REACH.
COHO SALMON WERE OBSERVED SPAWNING IN MAINSTEM TWENTYMILE RIVER ONE MILE
UPSTREAM OF THE UNNAMED S.W. TRAIL IN 1993 AND 1994.
ATTACHMENTS: PAGES 49 FROM F.M.R #94-8

MEMO

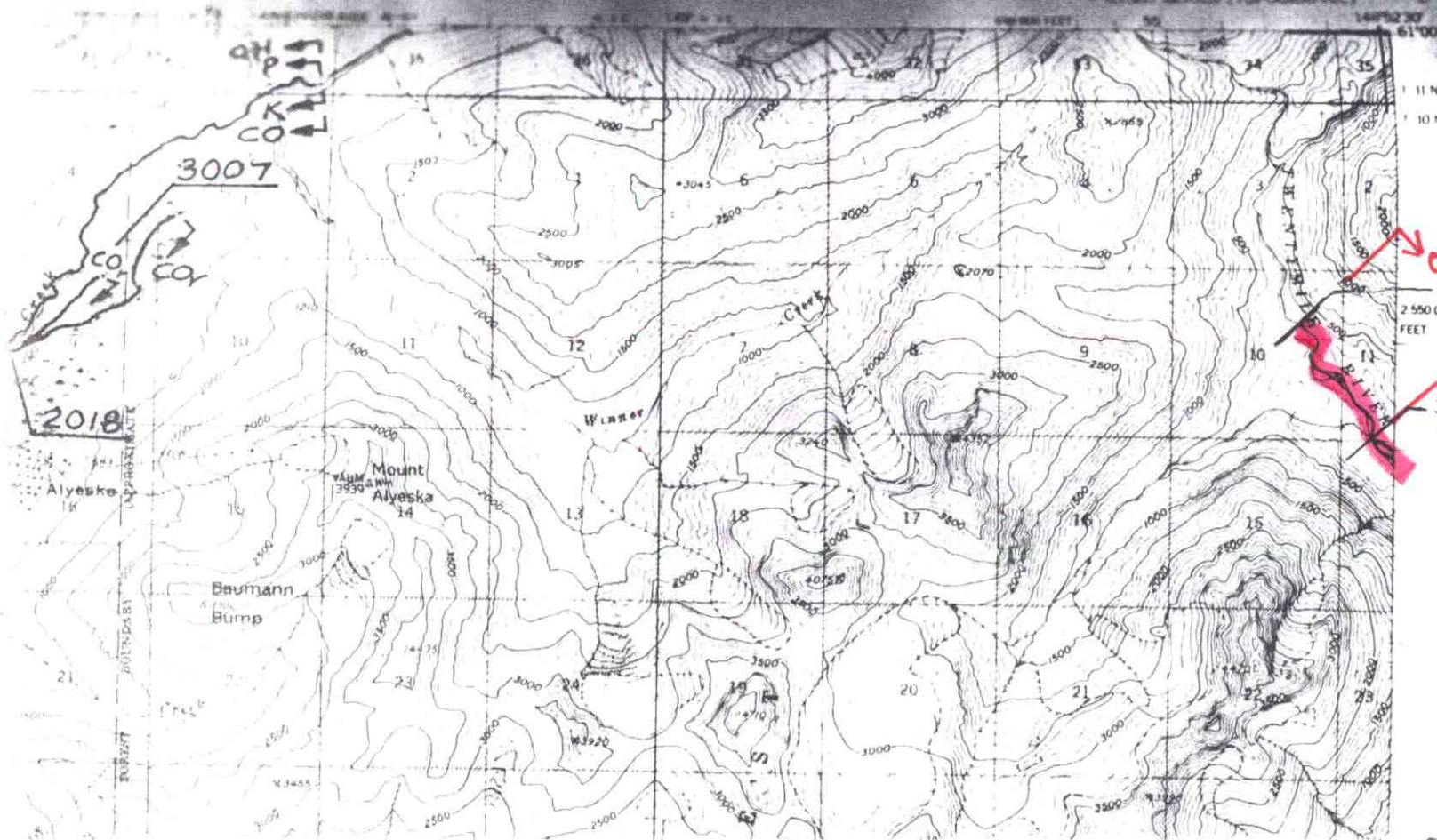
Name of Observer (please print) BARRY STRATTON
Date: 1/18/95 Signature: [Signature]
Address: 333 RASPBERRY RD.
ANCHORAGE AK 99518

This certifies that in my best professional judgement and belief the above information is evidence that this waterbody should be included in or deleted from the Catalog of Waters Important for Spawning, Rearing or Migration of Anadromous Fishes per AS 16.05.870.

Signature of Area Biologist: [Signature]

Rev. 7/93

Seward D-6



Extend upper limit
of stream
247-60-10230

CO₂
COH₂
5% CH₄
JOCKEY
CHUM

% of Total
100%
0%
0%
0%
13%
35%
35%
44%
24%
5%
32%
0%
32%
44%
24%
26%
63%

Campbell Creek weir as part of the urban coho salmon project. However, the weir is not operational until most sockeye salmon have passed the site. Therefore, foot survey counts are used to estimate Campbell Creek sockeye salmon escapement. The average escapement from 1986 to 1993 was 529 fish (Appendix D4). Campbell Creek is presently closed to sockeye salmon sport fishing. Therefore, the small reported harvests have been illegal.

A weir has been operated by Elmendorf Air Force Base personnel in Sixmile Creek since 1988 (Appendix D5). Annual counts of returning sockeye salmon from 1988 through 1993 have averaged 2,084 fish. Sixmile Creek is presently closed to sport fishing, although Elmendorf Air Force Base allows fishing in the intertidal area below the high tide mark near the creek mouth. This site is marked with a steel cable across the stream and by department markers. The bag limit for this area was increased from three to six sockeye salmon per day due to the recent large runs.

Sockeye salmon escapements are not quantified in Twentymile or Portage rivers. Carmen Lake and its inlet tributaries are the primary sockeye salmon spawning areas in the Twentymile River drainage. Approximately 50 spawning sockeye salmon were observed in 1993 in the mainstem Twentymile River immediately downstream from an unnamed tributary entering the river about 13 miles from the mouth by department personnel hunting mountain goats (J. Regnart and B. Stratton, ADF&G Anchorage, personal communications).

Sockeye salmon returning to Portage River spawn in the artificially created channel in Williwaw Creek where a viewing platform and information kiosk were installed by USFS.

Chum Salmon

Chum salmon do not return in significant numbers to any Anchorage area stream. Most chum salmon are harvested by anglers targeting pink and coho salmon. There are no directed chum salmon sport fisheries. Beginning in 1985, the area chum salmon sport harvest increased significantly. The annual Anchorage area chum salmon sport harvest has averaged 326 fish from 1977-1991, of which 33% have been taken in Bird Creek (Table 16, Figure 21). Chum salmon are occasionally observed during chinook salmon escapement surveys although no directed chum salmon counts are conducted. Three chum salmon were observed at the Campbell Creek weir, and 60 were counted during Bird and Penguin Creek chinook salmon foot surveys. Chum salmon carcasses and spawners (12) were observed in 1993 in the mainstem Twentymile River immediately downstream from an unnamed tributary entering the river about 13 miles from the mouth by department personnel hunting mountain goats (J. Regnart and B. Stratton, ADF&G Anchorage, personal communications). No specific management activities are recommended for chum salmon in the Anchorage area.

Steelhead Trout

Although steelhead trout are not indigenous to the Anchorage area, there has been public interest in developing a steelhead run in one or more area stream. In 1956, 50,000 eyed steelhead trout eggs from Kodiak Hatchery were placed in egg trays and planted in Campbell Creek. There was no reported harvest from this release. In 1985 and 1986, steelhead smolt of Anchor River origin were stocked in Campbell Creek in an effort to establish an Anchorage area


Twentymile River
streams
k

MEMORANDUM

STATE OF ALASKA

TO: Andy Hoffmann
Area Management Biologist
Division of Sport Fish
Anchorage

Date: October 24, 1994

From: Barry Stratton 
Fishery Biologist
Division of Sport Fish
Anchorage

Subject: Turnagain Arm coho

While Turnagain Arm produces the largest wild stock coho salmon runs in the Anchorage Management area, only anecdotal information is available on run timing and abundance of these stocks. The targeted effort and harvest of these "late run" stocks have markedly increased the past five years, particularly in Twentymile River. This increased harvest and effort, coupled with no information on spawning escapements, prompted some public concerns about overharvest of Twentymile River stocks,

Don Perrin, FWT II, and I chartered REGAL AIR's Cessna 185 last Friday (10/21) and flew coho salmon escapement surveys of Twentymile River, Portage Creek, Placer Creek, and Placer River drainages. My index counts are listed below.

Twentymile River Drainage

	<u>Coho</u>	<u>Chum</u>
"A" Hole Slough	75	0
"Goat" Creek	75	0
ABOUT 180 IN THIS REACH → Mainstem (above "beaver ponds")	780	0
Glacier River	50	20
Upper Carmen River	0	0
South Fork	6	0
TOTAL	986	20

Portage Creek

Mainstem	0	0
"Snagger" Sloughs	0	0
TOTAL	0	0

Placer Creek	0	0
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Placer River

Sloughs and Mainstem	55	0
Skookum Creek	750	0
TOTAL	805	0

Visibility ranged from poor in Portage Creek, Glacier and Twentymile River below their confluence, and mainstem Placer River to excellent in all other surveyed streams and areas. Surveys appeared to be "past peak," and I recommend flying these surveys the first week of October next year.

As a side note, there appears to be two distinctive coho runs in Placer River. When Paul Cyr and I returned from posting signs in Eshamy on August 13, we counted 500 coho salmon in the clear water sloughs. These fish were not present last week.

cc: Cyr
Delaney
Hepler